

IN THE CLAIMS

The following claim listing replaces all prior claim listings:

1-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) A method for collecting a fee for a service of a service provider comprising the steps of:

receiving a request from said service provider to collect the fee from a user, said request including the amount of the fee;

receiving an IC card from the user, said IC card including service request data and digital signature data;

reading said service request data and said digital signature data on said IC card;

determining whether said service request data and said digital signature data are valid;

calculating the fee using the service request data on said IC card when it is determined that said service request data and said digital signature data are valid; and

collecting the fee from the user,

wherein,

said service request data recorded on said IC card cannot be modified, and

said digital signature is a function of said service request.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein said IC card is connectable to a user terminal, and the user sends said service request data and said digital signature data stored in said IC card by submitting said IC card.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein said service request data and digital signature data stored in said IC card are impossible for the user to rewrite.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein said IC card has information used for generating said digital signature data.

22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein said information includes personal information of the user.

23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 22 wherein said personal information includes a user name and a bank account number of the user.

24. (Previously Presented) A system for collecting a fee for a service of a service provider comprising:

means for receiving a request from said service provider to collect the fee from a user, said request including the amount of the fee;

means for receiving an IC card from the user, said IC card including service request data and digital signature data;

means for reading said service request data and said digital signature data on said IC card;

means for determining whether said service request data and said digital signature data are valid;

means for calculating the fee using the service request data on said IC card when it is determined that said service request data and said digital signature data are valid;

collecting the fee from the user,

wherein,

said service request data recorded on said IC card cannot be modified, and

said digital signature is a function of said service request.

25. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 24, wherein said IC card is connectable to a user terminal, and the user sends said service request data and said digital signature data stored in said IC card by submitting said IC card.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)